

A.J. Eggenberger, Chairman  
John E. Mansfield, Vice Chairman  
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## DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

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March 23, 2009

The Honorable Steven Chu  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585-1000

Dear Secretary Chu:

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your appointment as Secretary of Energy. As you assume your duties, the Board would like to present our views on the state of nuclear safety at the Department of Energy's (DOE) defense nuclear facilities, in accord with the Board's statutory mandate to identify the nature and consequences of potential threats to public health and safety at these facilities, elevate such issues to the highest levels of authority, and inform the public. A summary of these views is provided in the enclosure for your use in the management of nuclear safety at DOE's defense nuclear facilities.

We look forward to working with you on these matters and would welcome the opportunity to discuss these with you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A.J. Eggenberger", is written over a horizontal line.

A. J. Eggenberger  
Chairman

Enclosure

c: Mr. Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.